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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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IBM CORPORATION

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EXAMINER

RIZK, SAMIR WADIE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/733,693	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BRITSON ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Sam Rizk	<b>Art Unit</b> 2112	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6 and 8-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6 and 8-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

- Response to the applicant's amendment dated 6/6/2008
- Claims 5 and 7 have been Cancelled
- Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-20 are pending
- Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-20 have been rejected

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. The indicated allowability of claims 10-20 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference to Isom, III et al. US patent no. 7055069 (Hereinafter Isom). Rejections based on the newly cited reference follow.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 has been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Isom, III et al. US patent no. 7055069 (Hereinafter Isom).
4. In regard to claim 1, Isom teaches:

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- (Currently Amended) A method for testing an integrated circuit (IC) comprising:
  - employing one of a plurality of input lines coupled to a processor to receive a test signal for the processor wherein the processor is positioned internally with the IC;  
(Note: Figure 3, reference characters (3020, (304), (204) and (206) in Isom)
  - employing one of a plurality of output lines coupled to a processor to send a test result from the processor wherein the processor is positioned internally with the IC; and  
(Note: Figure 3, reference characters (3020, (304), (204) and (206) in Isom)
  - if the test result is unsuccessful, performing at least one of:
    - selecting and automatically switching to a remaining one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal for the processor using a first selection signal; and  
(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)
    - selecting and automatically switching to a remaining one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor using a second selection signal.  
(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

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5. In regard to claim 2, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein employing one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal for the processor includes:
- applying the test signal to each of the plurality of input lines;
- selecting one of the plurality of input lines; and
- receiving the test signal for the processor from the selected input line.

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

6. In regard to claim 3, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein employing one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor includes:
- applying the test result to each of the plurality of output lines;
- selecting one of the plurality of output lines; and
- sending the test result from the processor using the selected output line.

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

7. In regard to claim 4, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein employing a remaining one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal for the processor includes:
- selecting a remaining one of the plurality of input lines; and
- employing the selected remaining one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal.

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(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

8. In regard to claim 6, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein employing a remaining one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor includes:
  - selecting a remaining one of the plurality of output lines; and
  - employing the selected remaining one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor.

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

9. In regard to claim 8, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:
  - employing a remaining one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal for the processor includes:
    - selecting a remaining one of the plurality of input lines; and
    - employing the selected remaining one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal; and

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

- employing a remaining one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor includes:
  - selecting a remaining one of the plurality of output lines; and

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- employing the selected remaining one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor.

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

10. In regard to claim 9, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein:
- selecting a remaining one of the plurality of input lines includes:
- modifying a first select signal; and
- selecting a remaining one of the plurality of input lines based on the modified first select signal; and

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

- selecting a remaining one of the plurality of output lines includes:
- modifying a second select signal; and
- selecting a remaining one of the plurality of output lines based on the modified second select signal.

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

11. In regard to claim 10, Isom teaches:

- (Previously Amended) An apparatus for testing an IC comprising:
- a processor within the IC;

(Note: Figure 3, ref (206) in Isom)

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- a plurality of input lines coupled to the processor positioned internally within the IC;  
(Note: Figure 3, ref (102) in Isom)
- a plurality of output lines coupled to the processor positioned internal within the IC; and  
(Note: Figure 3, ref (102) in Isom)
- a connector interface coupled to the plurality of input lines and the plurality of output lines; wherein the apparatus is adapted to:  
(Note: Figure 3, ref (202) in Isom)
- employ one of the plurality of input lines to receive a test signal for the processor;  
(Note: Figure 3, ref (102) in Isom)
- employ one of the plurality of output lines to send a test result from the processor; and  
(Note: Figure 3, ref (102) in Isom)
- if the test result is unsuccessful, perform at least one of:
- selecting and automatically switching to a remaining one of the plurality of input lines to receive the test signal for the processor using a first selection signal; and  
(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)



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- selecting and automatically switching to a remaining one of the plurality of output lines to send the test result from the processor using a second selection signal.

(Note: Figures 4 & 5 and col. 7, lines (40-67) through col. 8, lines (1-6) in Isom)

12. In regard to claim 11, Isom teaches:

- (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the connector interface is adapted to apply the test signal to each of the plurality of input lines; and
- further comprising a first multiplexer coupled to the plurality of input lines and the processor, and adapted to:
  - select one of the plurality of input lines; and
  - receive the test signal for the processor on the selected input line.

(Note: Figure 3, ref (310) in Isom)

13. Claim 13 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 4.

14. Claim 14 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 2.

15. Claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 6.

16. Claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 13.

17. Claim 17 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 8.

18. Claim 18 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 9.

19. Claim 19 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 8.

20. Claim 20 is rejected for the same reasons as per claim 9.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sam Rizk whose telephone number is (571) 272-8191. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques Louis-Jacques can be reached on (571) 272-6962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronics Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)

/Sam Rizk/

Examiner, Art Unit 2112

/Mujtaba K Chaudry/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2112